

in the country districts. Inside of ten months we had the masses worked up so that the government did not try to proceed against us. Olloya Herrera the President would send orders to arrest all of the leaders but they were not arrested. Generally, the arrested would be out in ten days. So by the tactic of manifestation, agitation and ^{spontaneous} spontaneous movements of the workers against wage cuts we had in ten months a Party of more than 1,000 members which were for the first time organized more or less along the lines of a Communist Party. I say more or less hot because the CC did not know how to organize it, but because it was not easy to organize these workers in our organization. Only in Bogota did we really apply strictly Communist methods as to Party functioning relatively compared with other countries.

We had a fight against the opportunists. The former leaders of these Party—they were some of the worst scoundrels. You can only compare it here with Tammany. I will give you some illustrations, as to their ideas about strategy. Before Olloya took over the presidency one faction of the Conservatives tried to prevent his taking power by force of arms. They had regular military headquarters. They had plenty of rifles and everyone was talking,—"There is going to be a civil war." They tried to appeal to us and they said, Well, if you boys are okay, we want to give you 200 rifles. They wanted to organize the assassination of Olloya, a condition that the fellows to do the job should be Conservatives but it would organize it. A couple of days later I saw articles in papers of a nature that the C.P. had had a meeting and decided to assassinate the president. They were planning to blame the assassination on us, and then declare martial law and then arrest everybody, not only us but anyone who was opposed to the conservative government and then declare legally that the 2nd one in the election should take the office. Of course you can imagine what that would have resulted in. We printed a leaflet exposing the whole business, which we posted in the whole town, declaring our position that it does not matter to the working class whether one exploiter holds office or the other, and explaining our ~~position~~ position. After that Marques would not come to any meetings. First he thought he could play with me like with the other fellow that was there from the Profintern, who was a good comrade, but a fool politically. He thought he could do something similar with me. After he saw it doesn't work he got disgusted and he dropped out of activity in the newly elected Central Committee. We did not take action or anything against him, we were just glad he should stay away. This was one of the principal leaders of the Party, the theoretician of the Party, was one Morro Davillar, a capitalist. This fellow declared he accepted the line of the ~~Party~~ C.I. but when elections came around, he proposed an alliance with the Liberals,—the exact opposite of what the CI said and the very thing for which he was condemned in the CI letter. This fellow we kicked out and made a campaign against him, and so on and so forth. This was about 8 mos. after the CI letter arrived there.

By the way, when the CI letter first arrived there the Conservative press picked it up and almost the whole letter was published in the Bourgeois press, and that is how the letter got spread among the masses, because our own paper had a very small circulation. After the expulsion of this fellow the opportunists in Bogota got together and they began to function as a sort of like a Central Committee. They hooked up with some ~~guy~~ of their former scoundrels—one who used to be with the Tropical Oil Company. This guy was the intermediary between the Tropical Oil and the PSR. These opportunists got together,—they were meeting more or less regularly and amongst them was one comrade of ours. So we got information as to what was going on there. They were sending out there stunts as organizers. When we figured we had something good on them we opened up a campaign on them and finally got proof on Theodore Uribe Marques of signing Credentials to organizers. There were illusions about this fellow among the ardentaries, but we did succeed to isolate him. By that time we had a Central Organ,

When we expelled Thomas Uribe Marques after ten months—Th. Uribe Marques used to make some of his money by organizing common criminal business. Now tried to be the master mind of criminals,—and this was the principal leader of the Party when the bourgeois press popularized. When we expelled him, he got ust one fellow in Bogota who was half-crazy, the only one who still